R E M A R K S

With respect to independent claim 50, the Examiner relies on Figure 10 and column 10, lines 47-54 of Soler for meeting the following claim language of claim 50:

> "Establishing at least one desired point in time at or until which at least one sensor signal generated from a sensor is expected or at least one actuator is expected to be activated dependent on the transport path, said desired point-in-time being referenced to said system time of the printer or copier", where that system time is, as recited in claim 50, "the same for at least first and second control units of the printer or copier".

Figure 10 of Soler shows a gait which will deflect the sheet into an inverter 170 that the sheet is duplex sheet. Column 10, lines 47-54 discloses that if the sheet is a duplex sheet the gate will deflect the sheet into the inverter. The Examiner argues that a point-in-time the gate is expected to be actuated to guide the sheet to a duplex path or a simplex path depending on a signal from a controller. However, this desired point-in-time is not referenced to the system time of the printer or copier. Rather, in Soler no points-in-time referring to a system time of the printer are taught. Rather, in Soler the timers are started based on events so that after expiration of the timer, a specific action takes place. Thus the absolute point-in-time is only determined indirectly by the event and the time adjusted at the timer and not by a point-in-time referring to a system time of the printer or copier.

The Examiner also argues that for the system to function properly, the same time must be provided for the processors and cites column 9, lines 15-45 and column 13, lines 1-50.

Column 9, lines 15-45 disclose a plurality of system processors for processing the image and processors for controlling transmission of data and also system control signals at column 9, line 36. In column 13, lines 1-50 disclose the synchronization signal for a current sheet being scheduled and generation of sync

2

signals at regular intervals and employing those signals as references to determine the point-in-time at which a sheet should be fed from a selected paper tray. Various time periods are then calculated based on this sync signal based on for the current sheet being scheduled. Thus all times are based on this sync signal tied to the current sheet being scheduled and moving that sheet through the system. This teaches directly away from the invention since it is therefore not the system time but rather the sync signal tied to the sheet being scheduled from which all time periods are calculated.

With respect to dependent claim 51 reciting that the system time is predetermined by a timer with help of a counter, that counts the clock signal with a constant frequency, the Examiner cites column 13, lines 1-16. But here again it is the sync signal based on the current sheet being scheduled and not the system time. Also there is no disclosure whatsoever of a timer with help of a counter that counts the clock signal with a constant frequency.
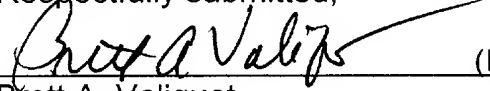
The remaining dependent claims also distinguish at least for the reasons noted with respect to claim 50.

Independent claim 72 distinguishes at least for the reasons noted with respect to claim 50.

Allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

3

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment to account No. 501519.

Respectfully submitted,

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